

Message Text

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PAGE 01 GABORO 01663 271534Z POSS DUPE
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 DHA-02 AID-05 PC-01 /078 W
-----097710 271836Z /43

R 270717Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY GABORONE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0285
INFO AMEMBASSY DARESSALAAM
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, PINS, BC, UN, SF

SUBJECT: PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS UN REP VISITS BOTSWANA

1. DAILY NEWS OF JULY 22 CONTAINS ARTICLE QUOTING CRITICISM OF AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG REPORTEDLY MADE BY PAN AFRICAN CONGRESS (PAC) UN REPRESENTATIVE DIVID SIBEKO DURING HIS RECENT VISIT TO BOTSWANA. ACCORDING TO DAILY NEWS ARTICLE, SIBEKO BRIEFED BOTSWANA MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MOGWE ON CURRENT STATUS OF CAMPAIGN TO ISOLATE "FACIST" SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME. SIBEKO ALSO REPORTEDLY DENOUNCED WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S RECENT STATEMENT THAT SOUTH AFRICAN REGIME COULD NOT BE OVERTHROWN BY GUERRILLA WARFARE. IN CONTRAST TO AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S STATEMENT, SIBEKO INSISTED THAT ARMED STRUGGLE IS THE CENTRAL LIBERATION STRATEGY FOR SOUTH AFRICA AND THAT ALL OTHER MEASURES MUST COMPLEMENT REVOLUTIONARY VIOLENCE. ARTICLE THEN QUOTES SIBEKO ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG TO EFFECT THAT HE IS "NOT AN EXPERT ON THE STRUGGLE FOR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN AZANIA".

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2. TURNING TO SOUTH AFRICA ITSELF, SIBEKO REPORTEDLY STATED THAT DISSOLUTION OF SOUTH AFRICA'S UNITED PARTY, FAILURE OF URGAN BANTU COUNCIL (UBC) SYSTEM, AND WITHDRAWL OF ANNOUNCED RENT INCREASES ARE EVIDENCE OF "PANIC" AMONG WHITE SOUTH AFRICANS AND HAVE "SHAKEN THE COUNTRY TO ITS VERY FOUNDATIONS". SIBEKO THEN HIT OUT AT SA FOREIGN

MINISTER PIK BOTHA WHOM HE DESCRIBED AS A HARD-LINE "BUSYBODY" WILLING TO "DIE FOR THE POLICY OF THE RACIST SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT". ARTICLE CONCLUDES WITH STATEMENT THAT SIBEKO COULD NOT DISCLOSE DETAILS PAC INVOLVEMENT IN ARMED STRUGGLE FOR "SECURITY REASONS".

3. COMMENT: OUR CONTACTS WITH INFORMED BATSWANA YIELD FAVORABLE COMMENT ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG PERSONALLY AND ON HIS ROLE IN US AFRICAN POLICY IN PARTICULAR. DAILY NEWS DECISION TO INCLUDE BLUNT CRITICISM OF HIM IN STRANDARD ATTACK ON SOUTH AFRICA IS INDICATIVE OF THE PAPER'S ECLECTIC CONCEPTION O THE NEWS RATHER THAN A SHIFT OF GOB OPINION ON AMBASSADOR YOUNG OR US AFRICAN POLICY.
NORLAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 27-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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